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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/534,034	03/24/2000	Hideo Miura	Q56556	2294

7590 07/30/2003

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, ARMANDO

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2828

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AP

Offic Action Summary	Applicati n N .	Applicant(s)
	09/534,034	MIURA ET AL.
	Examin r	Art Unit
	Armando Rodriguez	2828

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

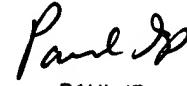
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2002.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 2-5 and 7-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 2-5 and 7-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.



PAUL J P
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed September 11, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding applicant's argument pertaining to the telephone interview on July 16, 2002 regarding the incorrect indication of final rejection, an interview summary is attached with the present office action.

Regarding applicant's argument on page 7 pertaining to the particular claimed dimensions of pitch, depth and flatness of the grooves provided on the scored surface. Kitaoka does disclose grooves to a surface for mounting an element on the surface and provided an adhesive for fixing the element and as discussed by applicant Kitaoka does disclose having a depth. Since, both devices have similar surfaces prepared for receiving an element and providing the surface with an adhesive to fixed the element it would have been an obvious design choice, to discover the optimum ranges for the depth, pitch and flatness for the scored surface. Furthermore, the method of abrading a surface to prepare the surface for fixing an element by applying adhesive is a commonly well known performed method, as the method for fixing a puncture inner tube of a bicycle.

Regarding applicant's argument on page 8 pertaining to Kitako disclosing grooves and not kerfs, it is well known that scoring a surface will provide the surface with lines, grooves, scratches or notches. Since, applicant claims the step of scoring the surface such step includes grooves.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-5 and 7-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitaoka et al (US 2001/0053167).

Regarding claims 2-5 and 7-17.

In figure 16 Kitaoka et al illustrates a laser system having a submount (201) with grooves (202) filled with adhesive (206), where a planar optical waveguide (204) is fixed, as described in example 9 page 12 [0162] – [0169].

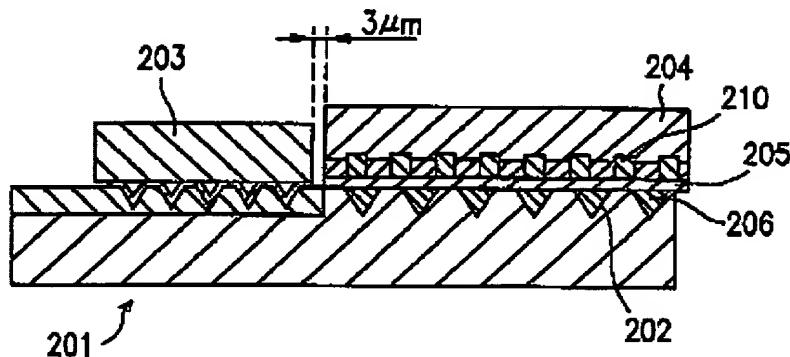
Kitaoka et al does not disclose the particular dimensions of the pitch, depth or flatness of the grooves.

The “person having ordinary skill” in this art has the capability of understanding the scientific and engineering principles applicable to the claimed invention. Thereby, would have the capability of providing the submount with grooves using any of the well known techniques, such as scoring or dicing. Furthermore, it is a well-known fact in any art that scoring will enhance adhesion. It is considered discovering working ranges of the dimensions of the pitch, depth and flatness involves only routine skill in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide working ranges or optimum ranges for the

pitch, depth and flatness of the grooves in the laser system of Kitaoka et al because it would enhance adhesion of the optical element.

FIG. 16



Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Armando Rodriguez whose telephone number is (703) 308-6218. The examiner can normally be reached on 10-hour day / M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Ip can be reached on (703) 308-3098. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7721 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-4881.


Armando Rodriguez
Examiner
Art Unit 2828


Paul Ip
Supervisor
Art Unit 2828

AR/PI
July 27, 2003